

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 9, line 25 (with the words "The new polymeric..."), and ends on page 10, line 7 (with the words "... hair care compositions."), by the following amended paragraph.

The new polymeric thickeners are useful for thickening a wide variety of compositions. The compositions can be free of water or can be water-in-oil emulsions. The invention is particularly useful for cosmetic (including hair care) compositions, ~~i.e. compositions which, as defined in the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, are intended to be "rubbed, poured, sprinkled, sprayed on, introduced into, or otherwise applied to the human body... for cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness, or altering the appearance".~~ Such compositions can for example be in the form of varnishes, gels, sticks, oil-in-water creams, water-in-oil creams, and thickened oil products with or without water. Specific examples of such compositions include, but are not limited to lipsticks, deodorant sticks, nail varnishes, pretanning lotions, sunscreen lotions, sun tan lotions, after-sun lotions, sun creams, protective hand creams, night renewal creams, body milks and lotions, light facial creams, protective day creams, liquid moisturizing emulsions, hairdressing preparations (including hair-treating oils, shampoos, after-shampoo compositions, products for rinsing to be applied before or after shampooing, before or after dyeing or bleaching, before or after permanent-waving or hair straightening, as a hair-setting or blow-drying composition, as a restructuring composition, or as a support for permanent-waving or for dyeing or bleaching hair), foam baths, bath oils, skin cleansers, skin foundations mascaras, eye makeups, makeup removers designed to assist in removing other cosmetic compositions. The cosmetic compositions can contain conventional additives for cosmetic compositions, including but not limited to fragrances, sun screen agents, colorants, pigments, silicones, deodorants and antiseptic agents. However, the invention is also useful in other contexts, for example in paints, film-forming compositions, inks, and compositions carrying

active ingredients such as UV absorbers, fragrances, biocides, antimicrobial agents, germicides, antioxidants, preservatives, disinfectants, enzymes, nutrients, minerals, and drugs (including pharmaceuticals which are active physiologically or pharmacologically, either topically or systemically).

- 5 Compositions containing a thickener containing an ammonium salt are likely to be useful in certain types of hair care compositions.